116TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H. R. 4160

To reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 and to establish the United States Coral Reef Task Force, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

August 2, 2019

Mr. Soto (for himself, Miss González-Colón of Puerto Rico, Mr. Crist, Mr. Mast, Mrs. Murphy, Mrs. Radewagen, and Ms. Gabbard) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

- To reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 and to establish the United States Coral Reef Task Force, and for other purposes.
 - 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
 - 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
 - 3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.
 - 4 (a) Short Title.—This Act may be cited as the
 - 5 "Restoring Resilient Reefs Act of 2019".
- 6 (b) Table of Contents for
- 7 this Act is as follows:
 - Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—REAUTHORIZATION OF CORAL REEF CONSERVATION ACT OF 2000

Sec. 101. Reauthorization of Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000.

TITLE II—UNITED STATES CORAL REEF TASK FORCE

- Sec. 201. Establishment.
- Sec. 202. Duties.
- Sec. 203. Membership.
- Sec. 204. Responsibilities of Federal agency members.
- Sec. 205. Working groups.
- Sec. 206. Definitions.

TITLE III—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR CORAL REEF AUTHORITIES

Sec. 301. Coral reef conservation and restoration assistance.

1 TITLE I—REAUTHORIZATION OF

2 CORAL REEF CONSERVATION

3 **ACT OF 2000**

- 4 SEC. 101. REAUTHORIZATION OF CORAL REEF CONSERVA-
- 5 TION ACT OF 2000.
- 6 The Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C.
- 7 6401 et seq.) is amended by striking sections 202 through
- 8 210 and inserting the following:
- 9 "SEC. 202. PURPOSES.
- 10 "The purposes of this title are—
- 11 "(1) to preserve, sustain, and restore the condi-
- tion of United States coral reef ecosystems chal-
- lenged by natural and human-accelerated changes,
- including increasing ocean temperatures, ocean
- acidification, coral bleaching, coral diseases, and
- 16 invasive species;

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- "(2) to promote the science-based management and sustainable use of coral reef ecosystems to benefit local communities and the Nation, including through improved integration and cooperation among Federal, State, and locally managed jurisdictions with coral reef equities;
 - "(3) to develop sound scientific information on the condition of coral reef ecosystems, continuing and emerging threats to such ecosystems, and the efficacy of innovative tools, technologies, and strategies to restore such ecosystems;
 - "(4) to assist in the preservation of coral reefs by supporting consensus-driven State and community-based coral reef management, including conservation and restoration projects that empower local communities, small businesses, and nongovernmental organizations;
 - "(5) to provide financial resources, technical assistance, and scientific expertise to supplement and strengthen State and community-based management programs and conservation and restoration projects;
 - "(6) to establish a formal mechanism for collecting and allocating monetary donations from the private sector to be used for coral reef conservation and restoration projects;

1	"(7) to support the rapid and effective, science-
2	based response to emergencies that imminently
3	threaten coral reefs, such as coral disease outbreaks,
4	invasive species, coral bleaching, natural disasters,
5	vessel groundings or chemical spills, and other exi-
6	gent circumstances; and
7	"(8) to serve as a model for advancing similar
8	international efforts to preserve, sustain, and restore
9	coral reef ecosystems in the jurisdictions of United
10	States allies and trading partners.
11	"SEC. 203. NATIONAL CORAL REEF RESILIENCE STRATEGY.
12	"(a) In General.—Not later than one year after the
13	date of the enactment of the Restoring Resilient Reefs Act
14	of 2019, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate
15	congressional committees and publish in the Federal Reg-
16	ister a national coral reef resilience strategy.
17	"(b) Elements.—The strategy required by para-
18	graph (1) shall include—
19	"(1) a statement of goals and objectives and an
20	implementation plan for supporting—
21	"(A) the coral reef conservation program
22	under section 221; and
23	"(B) future Federal coral reef manage-
24	ment and restoration activities under section
25	205;

1	"(2) national maps of—
2	"(A) the current range and extent of cora
3	reef ecosystems;
4	"(B) the historic range and extent of cora
5	reef ecosystems; and
6	"(C) prime habitat for restoring reef eco-
7	system structure and functions to benefit coast
8	al communities and living marine resources
9	and
10	"(3) a discussion of—
11	"(A) continuing and emerging threats to
12	the resilience of United States coral reef eco-
13	systems;
14	"(B) national and regional gaps in cora
15	reef ecosystem research, monitoring, and as-
16	sessments;
17	"(C) the status of efforts to improve man-
18	agement, integration, and cooperation among
19	Federal, State, Tribal, and locally managed ju-
20	risdictions with coral reef equities; and
21	"(D) efforts to manage and disseminate
22	critical information, such as publicly accessible
23	research, reports, datasets, and maps, including
24	through interjurisdictional data sharing.

- 1 "(c) Revisions.—The Administrator shall periodi-
- 2 cally, but not less frequently than every 20 years, review
- 3 and revise the strategy required by subsection (a) as ap-
- 4 propriate.
- 5 "(d) Consultations.—In developing the strategy
- 6 required by subsection (a), the Administrator shall consult
- 7 with the Secretary of the Interior and the Task Force.
- 8 "(e) Use of Existing Plan.—At the discretion of
- 9 the Administrator, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
- 10 Administration's 2018 Coral Reef Conservation Program
- 11 Strategic Plan may be considered to fulfill the require-
- 12 ments of this section until January 1, 2040.
- 13 "SEC. 204. FEDERAL CORAL REEF ACTION PLANS.
- "(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than September 30,
- 15 2021, and every 5 years thereafter, the Administrator
- 16 shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees
- 17 and publish in the Federal Register a compilation of coral
- 18 reef action plans for each individual management unit of
- 19 a Federal agency specified in section 205(c) with jurisdic-
- 20 tion over coral reef ecosystems and established for at least
- 21 5 years—
- "(1) developed and submitted to the Adminis-
- trator by the Secretary of the Interior and the As-
- sistant Administrator of the National Ocean Service,
- as applicable; and

1	"(2) that meet the requirements of subsection
2	(b).
3	"(b) REQUIREMENTS FOR FEDERAL CORAL REEF
4	ACTION PLANS.—A coral reef action plan of a manage-
5	ment unit described in subsection (a) meets the require-
6	ments of this subsection if the plan includes—
7	"(1) a statement of goals and objectives to be
8	accomplished during the 5-year period following de-
9	velopment of the plan and consistent with the na-
10	tional coral reef resilience strategy in effect as devel-
11	oped in accordance with section 203; and
12	"(2) a discussion of—
13	"(A) a review of such unit's efforts and
14	success in managing and restoring coral reef
15	ecosystems under the previous coral reef action
16	plan in effect as developed under this section,
17	if applicable, and how such review informs the
18	newly effective action plan;
19	"(B) short- and mid-term coral reef con-
20	servation and restoration objectives for such
21	unit's coral reef ecosystems;
22	"(C) an assessment of whether such unit
23	has experienced more than a 10 percent loss of
24	living coral cover during the 10-year period pre-
25	ceding the date of the plan or retains less than

1	50 percent of its historic living coral cover as
2	of that date;
3	"(D) an updated adaptive management
4	framework to inform research, monitoring, and
5	assessment needs;
6	"(E) any coral reef emergency plans cer-
7	tified under section 216 for coral reef eco-
8	systems within such unit, and a review of any
9	circumstance that led to the activation of such
10	plans within such unit, including an evaluation
11	of the emergency responses;
12	"(F) tools and strategies to address pollu-
13	tion and water quality impacts to coral reef eco-
14	systems arising wholly from within the adminis-
15	trative boundaries of such unit;
16	"(G) the status of efforts to improve cora
17	reef ecosystem management integration and co-
18	operation among neighboring Federal, State
19	Tribal, or locally managed jurisdictions, includ-
20	ing identification of existing research and moni-
21	toring activities that can be leveraged for cora
22	reef status and trends assessments within such
23	unit;
24	"(H) a list of all coral reefs or ecologically
25	significant units of coral reefs identified by

1 coral reef stewardship partnerships certified 2 under section 210(e) or subject to stewardship activities governed by coral reef stewardship 3 4 plans certified under section 212 during the preceding 5-year period within such unit; 6 "(I) coral reef-related public outreach and 7 education efforts: "(J) an accounting of annual unit expendi-8 9 tures on coral reef management and restoration 10 during the 5-year period preceding the date of 11 the plan; and "(K) estimated budgetary and other re-12 13 source considerations necessary to carry out 14 such plan. 15 "(c) Adoption of Stewardship and Emergency Plans.—In developing a coral reef action plan under this 16 17 section, a management unit described in subsection (a) 18 may adopt any coral reef stewardship plans certified under 19 section 212 and coral reef emergency plans certified under 20 section 216 governing stewardship or emergency response 21 activities within the administrative boundaries of such 22 unit. 23 "(d) Consultations.—In developing the action plans required by subsection (a), the Secretary of the Inte-

rior or the Assistant Administrator of the National Ocean

1	Service may consult with the Administrator and the Task
2	Force.
3	"SEC. 205. FEDERAL CORAL REEF MANAGEMENT AND RES
4	TORATION ACTIVITIES.
5	"(a) In General.—The Secretary may conduct ac-
6	tivities described in subsection (b) to conserve and restore
7	coral reefs and coral reef ecosystems that are consistent
8	with—
9	"(1) all applicable laws governing resource
10	management in Federal and State waters, including
11	this title;
12	"(2) the national coral reef resilience strategy
13	in effect as developed under section 203; and
14	"(3) Federal coral reef action plans in effect
15	and developed under section 204.
16	"(b) Activities Described.—Activities described
17	in this subsection are activities to conserve and restore
18	coral reefs and coral reef ecosystems in waters managed
19	under the jurisdiction of a Federal agency specified in sub-
20	section (c), including—
21	"(1) enhancing compliance with Federal laws
22	that prohibit or regulate—
23	"(A) the taking of coral products or spe-
24	cies associated with coral reefs: or

1	"(B) the use and management of coral reef
2	ecosystems;
3	"(2) mapping of—
4	"(A) the current range and extent of coral
5	reef ecosystems;
6	"(B) the historical range and extent of
7	coral reef ecosystems; and
8	"(C) prime habitat for restoring reef eco-
9	system structure and functions to benefit coast-
10	al communities and living marine resources;
11	"(3) long-term ecological monitoring of coral
12	reef ecosystems;
13	"(4) implementing species-specific recovery
14	plans for listed coral species consistent with the En-
15	dangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et
16	seq.);
17	"(5) restoring degraded coral reef ecosystems;
18	"(6) promoting ecologically sound navigation
19	and anchorages, including mooring buoy systems to
20	promote enhanced recreational access, near coral
21	reefs; and
22	"(7) monitoring and responding to severe
23	bleaching or mortality events, disease outbreaks,
24	invasive species outbreaks, and significant maritime

- 12 1 accidents, including chemical spill cleanup and the 2 removal of grounded vessels. 3 "(c) Federal Agencies Specified.—A Federal 4 agency specified in this subsection is one of the following: 5 "(1) The National Ocean Service of the Na-6 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. 7 "(2) The National Park Service. 8 "(3) The United States Fish and Wildlife Serv-9 ice.
- 10 "(4) The Office of Insular Affairs of the De-11 partment of the Interior.
- 12 "(d) Coordination With the Department of
- 13 THE INTERIOR.—The Secretary shall coordinate with the
- 14 Secretary of the Interior regarding the conduct of any ac-
- 15 tivities to conserve and restore coral reefs and coral reef
- 16 ecosystems in waters managed under the jurisdiction of
- 17 a Federal agency specified in paragraph (2), (3), or (4)
- 18 of subsections (c).
- 19 "(e) Cooperative Agreements.—
- 20 "(1) IN GENERAL.—At the discretion of the 21 Secretary, the Administrator may enter into cooper-22 ative agreements with States to fund coral reef con-23 servation and restoration activities in waters man-

1	consistent with the national coral reef resilience
2	strategy in effect as developed under section 203.
3	"(2) Limitation.—The Administrator may not
4	provide more than \$500,000 in total funding under
5	paragraph (1) to one State in a fiscal year.
6	"SEC. 206. STATE CORAL REEF MANAGEMENT AND RES-
7	TORATION STRATEGIES.
8	"(a) In General.—Not later than September 30,
9	2022, and every 20 years thereafter, the Administrator
10	shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees
11	and publish in the Federal Register a compilation of State
12	coral reef management and restoration strategies—
13	"(1) developed and voluntarily submitted to the
14	Administrator by covered States; and
15	"(2) that meet the requirements of subsection
16	(b).
17	"(b) Requirements for State Strategies.—A
18	coral reef management and restoration strategy of a cov-
19	ered State meets the requirements of this subsection if the
20	strategy includes—
21	"(1) a statement of goals and objectives to be
22	accomplished during the 20-year period following the
23	development of the strategy; and
24	"(2) a discussion of—
25	"(A) updated State mapping of—

1	"(i) the current range and extent of
2	coral reef ecosystems;
3	"(ii) the historical range and extent of
4	coral reef ecosystems; and
5	"(iii) prime habitat for restoring reef
6	ecosystem functions to benefit coastal com-
7	munities and living marine resources;
8	"(B) continuing and emerging threats to
9	the resilience of coral reef ecosystems within
10	such State;
11	"(C) statewide gaps in research, moni-
12	toring, and assessment;
13	"(D) long-term State conservation and res-
14	toration goals, including the status of efforts to
15	improve management integration and coopera-
16	tion among Federal, State, Tribal, and locally
17	managed jurisdictions with coral reef equities;
18	"(E) the role of coral reef stewardship
19	partnerships certified under section 210(e)
20	within such State, and the role of such partner-
21	ships in the coral reef management and restora-
22	tion strategy of such State; and
23	"(F) efforts to manage and disseminate
24	critical information such as publicly accessible

1	research, reports, datasets, and maps, including
2	through interjurisdictional data sharing.
3	"(c) Technical Assistance.—Upon request by a
4	covered State, the Administrator shall make reasonable ef-
5	forts to provide technical assistance in the development
6	of the coral reef management and restoration strategy of
7	such State under this subsection.
8	"SEC. 207. STATE CORAL REEF ACTION PLANS.
9	"(a) In General.—Not later than September 30,
10	2023, and every 5 years thereafter, the Administrator
11	shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees
12	and publish in the Federal Register a compilation of State
13	coral reef action plans—
14	(1) developed and voluntarily submitted to the
15	Administrator by covered States; and
16	"(2) that meet the requirements of subsection
17	(b).
18	"(b) Requirements for State Plans.—A State
19	coral reef action plan meets the requirements of this sub-
20	section if the plan includes—
21	"(1) a statement of goals and objectives to be
22	accomplished during the 5-year period following de-
23	velopment of the plan and consistent with such cov-
24	ered State's coral reef management and restoration

1	strategy in effect as developed in accordance with
2	section 206, if any; and
3	"(2) a discussion of—
4	"(A) a review of the most recent State
5	coral reef action plan assessment developed
6	under section 208, as applicable, and how such
7	assessment informs the newly submitted action
8	plan;
9	"(B) short- and mid-term State coral reef
10	conservation and restoration objectives;
11	"(C) an assessment of whether such State
12	has experienced more than a 10 percent loss of
13	living coral cover during the 10-year period pre-
14	ceding the date of the plan or retains less than
15	50 percent of its historical living coral cover as
16	of that date;
17	"(D) an updated adaptive management
18	framework to inform research, monitoring, and
19	assessment needs;
20	"(E) any coral reef emergency plans cer-
21	tified under section 216 in effect for coral reef
22	ecosystems within such State, and a review of
23	any circumstance that led to the activation of
24	such plans within such State, including an eval-
25	nation of the emergency responses:

1	"(F) tools and strategies to address pollu-
2	tion and water quality impacts to coral reef eco-
3	systems within such State;
4	"(G) the status of efforts to improve coral
5	reef ecosystem management integration and co-
6	operation among Federal, State, Tribal, or lo-
7	cally managed jurisdictions, including identifica-
8	tion of existing research and monitoring activi-
9	ties that can be leveraged for coral reef status
10	and trends assessments within such State;
11	"(H) a list of all coral reefs or ecologically
12	significant units of coral reefs identified by
13	coral reef stewardship partnerships certified
14	under section 210(e) or subject to stewardship
15	activities governed by coral reef stewardship
16	plans certified under section 212 during the
17	preceding 5-year period within such State;
18	"(I) coral reef-related public outreach and
19	education efforts;
20	"(J) an accounting of such State's annual
21	expenditures on coral reef management and res-
22	toration during the 5-year period preceding the
23	date of the plan; and

1	"(K) estimated budgetary and other re-
2	source considerations necessary to carry out
3	such plan.
4	"(c) Adoption of Stewardship and Emergency
5	PLANS.—In developing a coral reef action plan under this
6	section, a covered State may adopt any coral reef steward-
7	ship plans certified under section 212 and coral reef emer-
8	gency plans certified under section 216 governing steward-
9	ship or emergency response activities within the adminis-
10	trative boundaries of the State.
11	"(d) Technical Assistance.—Upon request by a
12	covered State, the Administrator shall make reasonable ef-
13	forts to provide technical assistance in the development
14	of the State's coral reef action plan under this section.
15	"SEC. 208. STATE CORAL REEF ACTION PLAN ASSESS
16	MENTS.
17	
17	"(a) In General.—Not later than September 30,
	"(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than September 30, 2027, and every 5 years thereafter, the Administrator
18	2027, and every 5 years thereafter, the Administrator
18 19	2027, and every 5 years thereafter, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees
18 19 20	2027, and every 5 years thereafter, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and publish in the Federal Register an assessment, for
18 19 20 21	2027, and every 5 years thereafter, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and publish in the Federal Register an assessment, for each covered State with an action plan developed under

- 1 "(2) a review of such covered State's efforts
- and success in managing and restoring coral reef
- 3 ecosystems under the previous coral reef action plan
- 4 developed under section 207 and in effect, as appli-
- 5 cable; and
- 6 "(3) a review of any circumstance that led to
- 7 the activation of a coral reef emergency plan cer-
- 8 tified under section 216 and in effect within such
- 9 covered State, including an evaluation of the emer-
- 10 gency responses.
- 11 "(b) Consultations.—In conducting an assessment
- 12 under subsection (a) with respect to a covered State, the
- 13 Administrator may consult with the covered State, the
- 14 Task Force, coral reef stewardship partnerships certified
- 15 under section 210(e) operating within the covered State,
- 16 and impacted Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations.
- 17 "(c) Use in Development of State Coral Reef
- 18 ACTION PLANS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Ad-
- 19 ministrator should conduct assessments under subsection
- 20 (a) with the goal of informing and supporting the develop-
- 21 ment of subsequent State coral reef action plans developed
- 22 under section 207.
- 23 "SEC. 209. STATE BLOCK GRANTS.
- 24 "(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall provide
- 25 block grants of financial assistance to covered States in

- 1 response to annual proposals for funds to support State
- 2 activities that would further the implementation of State
- 3 coral reef management and restoration strategies devel-
- 4 oped under section 206, State coral reef action plans de-
- 5 veloped under section 207, and coral reef stewardship
- 6 plans certified under section 212.
- 7 "(b) Eligibility.—A covered State is eligible to re-
- 8 ceive a grant under this subsection if the State has in ef-
- 9 fect—
- 10 "(1) a State coral reef management and res-
- toration strategy in effect published by the Adminis-
- trator in the Federal Register under section 206 and
- a State coral reef action plan in effect published by
- the Administrator in the Federal Register under sec-
- tion 207; or
- 16 "(2) at least one coral reef stewardship plan
- certified under section 212 in effect within its ad-
- ministrative boundaries.
- 19 "(c) Funding Requirements.—
- 20 "(1) Limitation.—Except as provided in para-
- graph (2) or subsection (d), the amount of Federal
- funds provided to a covered State as a block grant
- 23 under this section may not exceed the total amount
- of the annual expenditures of the State on the im-
- 25 plementation of its State coral reef management and

- restoration strategy under section 206, its State coral reef action plan under section 207, and its responsibilities to coral reef stewardship plans certified under section 212.
 - "(2) EXCLUSIONS.—Any Federal funds provided to a natural resource management authority of a State or other State government authority under this section or section 205, 213, 218, 219, or 221 shall not be considered State expenditures for the purposes of calculating the limitation under paragraph (1).
 - "(3) Considerations.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), in determining the amount of Federal funds a covered State receives as a block grant under this section, the Administrator may consider the following factors:
 - "(A) The quality of such State's funding proposal under subsection (a).
 - "(B) The findings from such State's most recent action plan assessment under section 208, if applicable.
 - "(C) Estimates of direct and indirect economic activity supported by coral reef ecosystems within such State.

- 1 "(d) Waivers of Certain Requirements.—The
- 2 Administrator may waive the eligibility requirements
- 3 under subsection (b), in full or in part, through fiscal year
- 4 2023.

5 "SEC. 210. CORAL REEF STEWARDSHIP PARTNERSHIPS.

- 6 "(a) Coral Reef Stewardship Partnerships.—
- 7 The Administrator shall establish standards for the forma-
- 8 tion of partnerships among government and community
- 9 members for the stewardship of coral reefs (in this title
- 10 referred to as 'coral reef stewardship partnerships') in ac-
- 11 cordance with this section.
- 12 "(b) Identification of Reefs.—Each coral reef
- 13 stewardship partnership shall identify with particularity
- 14 the coral reef or ecologically significant unit of a coral reef
- 15 that will be the subject of its stewardship activities.
- 16 "(c) Membership for Federal Reefs.—A coral
- 17 reef stewardship partnership that has identified, as the
- 18 subject of its stewardship activities, a coral reef or eco-
- 19 logically significant unit of a coral reef that is fully or par-
- 20 tially under the management jurisdiction of any Federal
- 21 agency specified in section 205(c), shall, at a minimum,
- 22 include the following:
- 23 "(1) That Federal agency, a representative of
- 24 which shall serve as chair of the coral reef steward-
- ship partnership.

1	"(2) A State, county, or Tribal organization's
2	resource management agency.
3	"(3) A coral reef research center described in
4	section 223(c)(2) or other institution of higher edu-
5	cation.
6	"(4) A nongovernmental organization.
7	"(5) Other members as appropriate, such as in-
8	terested stakeholder groups.
9	"(d) Membership for Non-Federal Reefs.—
10	"(1) In general.—A coral reef stewardship
11	partnership that has identified, as the subject of its
12	stewardship activities, a coral reef or ecologically sig-
13	nificant unit of a coral reef that is not under the
14	management jurisdiction of any Federal agency
15	specified in section 205(e) shall, at a minimum, in-
16	clude the following:
17	"(A) A State, county, or Tribal organiza-
18	tion's resource management agency, a rep-
19	resentative of which shall serve as the chair of
20	the coral reef stewardship partnership.
21	"(B) A coral reef research center described
22	in section 223(c)(2) or another institution of
23	higher education.
24	"(C) A nongovernmental organization.

1	"(D) Other members as appropriate, such
2	as interested stakeholder groups.
3	"(2) Additional members.—A coral reef
4	stewardship partnership described in paragraph (1)
5	may also include one or more Federal agencies that
6	have a management interest in the identified reef
7	that is subject to the partnership's stewardship ac-
8	tivities.
9	"(e) Certification.—A group seeking recognition
10	as a coral reef stewardship partnership under this section
11	may petition the Administrator for certification as a coral
12	reef stewardship partnership, and the Administrator shall
13	accept or reject the petition for certification not later than
14	30 days after receiving the petition.
15	"(f) Multiple Groups.—
16	"(1) In general.—Each coral reef, or eco-
17	logically significant unit of a coral reef, may be the
18	subject of the stewardship activities of only one coral
19	reef stewardship partnership.
20	"(2) Procedures required.—The Adminis-
21	trator shall develop procedures to govern the disposi-
22	tion of petitions from multiple groups seeking to
23	identify the same coral reef or ecologically signifi-

cant unit of a coral reef as the subject of the stew-

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- 1 ardship activities of a coral reef stewardship part-2 nership. 3 "(g) Nonapplicability of Federal Advisory COMMITTEE ACT.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act 5 (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to coral reef stewardship partnerships. 6 7 "SEC. 211. CORAL REEF STEWARDSHIP PLANS. "(a) Reef Stewardship Plans.—A coral reef 8 stewardship partnership certified under section 210(e) 10 may develop plans for the stewardship of the coral reef 11 or ecologically significant unit of a coral reef that is the 12 subject of the stewardship activities of the partnership (in this title referred to as 'coral reef stewardship plans'). 13 14 "(b) Plan Requirements.—A coral reef steward-15 ship plan shall include the following elements: "(1) Tools and strategies to address pollution 16 17 and water quality impacts to the identified coral reef 18 ecosystems. 19 "(2) An updated adaptive management frame-20 work to inform research, monitoring, and assessment 21 needs. 22 "(3) Short- and mid-term coral reef steward-
- 22 "(3) Short- and mid-term coral reef steward-23 ship objectives.
- 24 "(4) Coral reef-related public outreach and edu-25 cation efforts.

1	"(5) Establishment of roles and responsibilities
2	for implementing the plan.
3	"(6) Evidence of engagement with interested
4	stakeholder groups in the development of the plan
5	"(7) Any other information the Administrator
6	considers to be necessary for evaluating the plan.
7	"(c) Best Stewardship Practices.—The Admin-
8	istrator shall convene representatives of coral reef stew-
9	ardship partnerships not less than once a year to share
10	experiences and identify best practices for developing and
11	implementing coral reef stewardship plans.
12	"SEC. 212. STEWARDSHIP PLAN CERTIFICATIONS.
13	"(a) Submission to Administrator for Certifi-
14	CATION.—A coral reef stewardship partnership certified
15	under section 210(e) may submit a coral reef stewardship
16	plan developed under section 211 to the Administrator for
17	certification.
18	"(b) Evaluation.—
19	"(1) In general.—The Administrator shall—
20	"(A) evaluate a plan submitted under sub-
21	section (a) to determine whether the plan com-
22	plies with the requirements of section 211(b);
23	and
24	"(B) grant or deny the petition for certifi-
25	cation not later than 120 days (except as pro-

- 1 vided by paragraph (2)) after receiving the peti-
- 2 tion.
- 3 "(2) Extension.—The Administrator may ex-
- 4 tend the date provided for under paragraph (1)(B)
- 5 by not more than 60 days.
- 6 "(c) Appeal.—If the Administrator denies a petition
- 7 for certification submitted under subsection (a) by a coral
- 8 reef stewardship partnership, the partnership may, not
- 9 later than 30 days after receiving notice of the denial, ap-
- 10 peal the denial to the Secretary. Not later than 60 days
- 11 after receiving an appeal under this subsection, the Sec-
- 12 retary shall grant or deny the appeal.
- 13 "(d) Recertification.—The certification of a coral
- 14 reef stewardship plan under this section shall expire on
- 15 the date that is 5 years after the certification was granted.
- 16 A coral reef stewardship partnership may submit an up-
- 17 dated version of such a plan for recertification prior to
- 18 the expiration of the certification of the plan under this
- 19 section.
- 20 "SEC. 213. CORAL REEF STEWARDSHIP FUND.
- 21 "(a) Authority To Enter Into Agreements.—
- 22 The Administrator may enter into an agreement with the
- 23 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (in this section re-
- 24 ferred to as the 'Foundation'), authorizing the Foundation

1	to receive, hold, and administer funds received pursuant
2	to this section.
3	"(b) Fundation shall invest, reinvest,
4	and otherwise administer the funds received pursuant to
5	this section and maintain such funds and any interest or
6	revenues earned in a separate interest bearing account,
7	to be known as the 'Coral Reef Stewardship Fund' (in this
8	section referred to as the 'Fund'), established by the
9	Foundation solely to support coral reef stewardship part-
10	nership activities that—
11	"(1) further the purposes of this title; and
12	"(2) are consistent with—
13	"(A) the national coral reef resilience
14	strategy in effect as developed under section
15	203;
16	"(B) the State coral reef management and
17	restoration strategy in effect, if any, as devel-
18	oped under section 206 by the covered State in
19	which such activities will be carried out;
20	"(C) the State coral reef action plan in ef-
21	fect, if any, as developed under section 207 by
22	the covered State in which such activities will
23	be carried out;
24	"(D) Federal coral reef action plans in ef-
25	fect, if any, as developed under section 204 by

1	a Federal agency with management jurisdiction
2	of a coral reef ecosystem to be impacted by
3	such activities, if applicable; and
4	"(E) the coral reef stewardship plan in ef-
5	fect as certified under section 212 governing
6	such stewardship activities.
7	"(c) Authorization To Solicit Donations.—
8	"(1) In general.—Pursuant to an agreement
9	entered into under subsection (a), the Foundation
10	may accept, receive, solicit, hold, administer, and use
11	any gift (including, notwithstanding section 1342 of
12	title 31, United States Code, donations of services)
13	to further the purposes of this title.
14	"(2) Deposits in fund.—Notwithstanding
15	section 3302 of title 31, United States Code, any
16	funds received as a gift shall be deposited and main-
17	tained in the Fund.
18	"(3) NOTIFICATION REQUIRED.—Not later than
19	30 days after funds are deposited in the Fund under
20	paragraph (2), the Foundation shall notify the Com-
21	mittee on Appropriations of the Senate and the
22	Committee on Appropriations of the House of Rep-
23	resentatives of the source and amount of such funds.
24	"(d) REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE.—The Adminis-
25	trator shall conduct a continuing review of the grant pro-

- 1 gram administered by the Foundation under this section.
- 2 Each review shall include a written assessment concerning
- 3 the extent to which the Foundation has implemented the
- 4 goals and requirements of—
- 5 "(1) this section; and
- 6 "(2) the national coral reef resilience strategy
- 7 in effect as developed under section 203.
- 8 "(e) Administration.—Under an agreement en-
- 9 tered into pursuant to subsection (a), the Administrator
- 10 may transfer funds appropriated to carry out this title to
- 11 the Foundation. Amounts received by the Foundation
- 12 under this subsection may be used for matching, in whole
- 13 or in part, contributions (whether in money, services, or
- 14 property) made to the Foundation by private persons,
- 15 State or local government agencies, or Tribal organiza-
- 16 tions.
- 17 "SEC. 214. CORAL REEFS AS MAINTAINED OR ENGINEERED
- 18 **INFRASTRUCTURE.**
- 19 "(a) Coral Reefs That Are the Subject of
- 20 CERTIFIED CORAL REEF PLANS.—Any coral reef or eco-
- 21 logically significant unit of a coral reef that is the subject
- 22 of stewardship activities of a coral reef stewardship part-
- 23 nership plan in effect as certified under section 212 or
- 24 a coral reef emergency plan in effect as certified under
- 25 section 216 shall be eligible for public assistance under

- 1 the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency As-
- 2 sistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.).
- 3 "(b) Other Coral Reefs.—Any coral reef or eco-
- 4 logically significant unit of a coral reef not described in
- 5 subsection (a) may be considered eligible for public assist-
- 6 ance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and
- 7 Emergency Assistance Act.

8 "SEC. 215. CORAL REEF EMERGENCY PLANS.

- 9 "(a) IN GENERAL.—Individual management units of
- 10 Federal agencies specified in section 205(c) with jurisdic-
- 11 tion over coral reef ecosystems, covered States, and coral
- 12 reef stewardship partnerships certified under section
- 13 210(e) may develop plans (in this title referred to as 'coral
- 14 reef emergency plans') for the rapid and effective response
- 15 to circumstances that pose an urgent and immediate
- 16 threat to the coral reef ecosystems subject to the steward-
- 17 ship activities of such management unit, covered State, or
- 18 coral reef stewardship partnership.
- 19 "(b) Coral Reef Emergencies.—The Adminis-
- 20 trator shall develop a list and criteria for circumstances
- 21 that pose an urgent and immediate threat to coral reefs
- 22 (in this title referred to as 'coral reef emergencies'), in-
- 23 cluding—
- 24 "(1) new and ongoing outbreaks of disease;

1	"(2) new and ongoing outbreaks of invasive spe-
2	cies;
3	"(3) new and ongoing coral bleaching events;
4	"(4) natural disasters;
5	"(5) man-made disasters, including vessel
6	groundings, chemical spills, or coastal construction
7	accidents; and
8	"(6) other exigent circumstances.
9	"(c) Best Response Practices.—The Adminis-
10	trator shall develop guidance on best practices to respond
11	to coral reef emergencies. Such best practices shall be—
12	"(1) based on the best available science and in-
13	tegrated with evolving innovative technologies; and
14	"(2) updated not less frequently than once
15	every 5 years.
16	"(d) Plan Requirements.—A coral reef emergency
17	plan shall include the following elements:
18	"(1) A description of particular threats, and the
19	proposed responses, consistent with the best prac-
20	tices developed under subsection (c).
21	"(2) A delineation of roles and responsibilities
22	for executing such plan.
23	"(3) Evidence of engagement with interested
24	stakeholder groups, as applicable, in the develop-
25	ment of such plan.

1	"(4) Any other information the Administrator
2	considers to be necessary for evaluating such plan.
3	"SEC. 216. EMERGENCY PLAN CERTIFICATIONS.
4	"(a) Submission to Administrator for Certifi-
5	CATION.—Federal agencies specified in subsection 205(c),
6	covered States, and coral reef stewardship partnerships
7	certified under section 210(e) may submit coral reef emer-
8	gency plans developed under section 215 to the Adminis-
9	trator for certification.
10	"(b) Evaluation.—
11	"(1) In general.—The Administrator shall—
12	"(A) evaluate a plan submitted under sub-
13	section (a) to determine whether the plan com-
14	plies with the requirements of section 215(d);
15	and
16	"(B) grant or deny the petition for certifi-
17	cation not later than 120 days (except as pro-
18	vided by paragraph (2)) after receiving the peti-
19	tion.
20	"(2) Extension.—The Administrator may ex-
21	tend the date provided for under paragraph (1)(B)
22	by not more than 60 days.
23	"(c) Appeal.—If the Administrator denies a petition
24	for certification submitted under subsection (a), the peti-
25	tioning entity may, not later than 30 days after receiving

- 1 notice of the denial, appeal the denial to the Secretary.
- 2 Not later than 60 days after receiving an appeal under
- 3 this subsection, the Secretary shall grant or deny the ap-
- 4 peal.
- 5 "(d) Recertification.—The certification of a coral
- 6 reef emergency plan under this section shall expire on the
- 7 date that is 5 years after the certification was granted.
- 8 The petitioning entity may submit an updated version of
- 9 such a plan for recertification prior to the expiration of
- 10 the certification of the plan under this section.

11 "SEC. 217. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW.

- 12 "(a) Rule of Construction.—Nothing in this Act
- 13 may be construed to supersede or modify the requirements
- 14 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42
- 15 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).
- 16 "(b) Environmental Assessments.—To the ex-
- 17 tent permissible under the National Environmental Policy
- 18 Act of 1969, the Administrator may conduct an environ-
- 19 mental assessment or environmental impact statement
- 20 under that Act with respect to coral reef emergency plans
- 21 developed under section 215 or certified under section
- 22 216.
- 23 "(c) Guidance and Outreach.—The Adminis-
- 24 trator shall issue guidance and conduct outreach with re-
- 25 spect to the implementation of this section.

1 "SEC. 218. CORAL REEF EMERGENCY FUND.

2	"(a) Authority To Enter Into Agreements.—
3	The Administrator may enter into an agreement with the

- 4 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (in this section re-
- 5 ferred to as the 'Foundation'), authorizing the Foundation
- 6 to receive, hold, and administer funds received pursuant
- 7 to this section.
- 8 "(b) Fundation shall invest, reinvest,
- 9 and otherwise administer funds received pursuant to this
- 10 section and maintain such funds and any interest or reve-
- 11 nues earned in a separate interest-bearing account, to be
- 12 known as the 'Coral Reef Emergency Fund' (in this sec-
- 13 tion referred as the 'Fund'), established by the Founda-
- 14 tion solely to support rapid and effective responses to coral
- 15 reef emergencies by Federal agencies specified in sub-
- 16 section 205(c), covered States, and coral reef stewardship
- 17 partnerships certified under section 210(e), and as other-
- 18 wise consistent with this title.
- 19 "(c) Authorization To Solicit Donations.—
- 20 "(1) In General.—Pursuant to an agreement
- 21 entered into under subsection (a), the Foundation
- 22 may accept, receive, solicit, hold, administer, and use
- any gift (including, notwithstanding section 1342 of
- 24 title 31, United States Code, donations of services)
- 25 to further the purposes of this title.

- 1 "(2) DEPOSITS IN FUND.—Notwithstanding 2 section 3302 of title 31, United States Code, any 3 funds received as a gift shall be deposited and main-
- 4 tained in the Fund.
- 5 "(3) NOTIFICATION REQUIRED.—Not later than
- 6 30 days after funds are deposited in the Fund under
- 7 paragraph (2), the Foundation shall notify the Com-
- 8 mittee on Appropriations of the Senate and the
- 9 Committee on Appropriations of the House of Rep-
- resentatives of the source and amount of such funds.
- 11 "(d) REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE.—The Adminis-
- 12 trator shall conduct a continuing review of the grant pro-
- 13 gram administered by the Foundation under this section.
- 14 Each review shall include a written assessment concerning
- 15 the extent to which the Foundation has implemented the
- 16 goals and requirements of this section.
- 17 "(e) Administration.—Under an agreement en-
- 18 tered into pursuant to subsection (a), the Administrator
- 19 may transfer funds appropriated to carry out this title to
- 20 the Foundation. Amounts received by an organization
- 21 under this subsection may be used for matching, in whole
- 22 or in part, contributions (whether in money, services, or
- 23 property) made to the organization by private persons,
- 24 State or local government agencies, or Tribal organiza-
- 25 tions.

1 "SEC. 219. EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE.

2	"(a) Coral Reef Emergency Declarations.—
3	"(1) Sua sponte declaration.—The Sec-
4	retary may determine and declare a coral reef emer-
5	gency.
6	"(2) Petitions.—If a State or a coral reef
7	stewardship partnership certified under section
8	210(e) believes that a coral reef emergency has oc-
9	curred, and is impacting coral reefs or ecologically
10	significant units of coral reefs subject to the coral
11	reef stewardship activities of the State or partner-
12	ship, the State or partnership may petition the Sec-
13	retary for a declaration of a coral reef emergency.
14	"(3) Evaluation and action.—
15	"(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30
16	days after receiving a petition under paragraph
17	(2) (except as provided in subparagraph (B)),
18	the Secretary shall—
19	"(i) evaluate the petition to determine
20	whether a coral reef emergency has oc-
21	curred; and
22	"(ii) declare a coral reef emergency or
23	deny the petition.
24	"(B) Extension.—The Administrator
25	may extend the deadline provided for under
26	subparagraph (A) by not more than 15 days.

- "(4) APPEAL.—If the Secretary denies a peti-1 2 tion for an emergency declaration submitted under 3 paragraph (2) by a State or coral reef stewardship 4 partnership, the State or partnership may, not later 5 than 15 days after receiving notice of the denial, ap-6 peal the denial to the Secretary. Not later than 15 7 days after receiving an appeal under this paragraph, 8 the Secretary shall grant or deny the appeal.
 - "(5) Revocation.—The Secretary may revoke any declaration of a coral reef emergency in whole or in part after determining that circumstances no longer require an emergency response.
 - "(6) Recovery of emergency funding.—
 The Administrator may seek compensation from negligent parties to recover emergency funds expended in excess of \$500,000 under this section as a result of an emergency declaration arising from direct impacts to coral reefs from man-made disasters or accidents.

20 "(b) Grant Authority.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Upon the declaration of a coral reef emergency under subsection (a), the Secretary shall provide grants to carry out proposals that meet the requirements of paragraph (2) to im-

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1	plement coral reef emergency plans certified under
2	section 216.
3	"(2) Requirements.—A proposal for a grant
4	under this subsection to implement a coral reef
5	emergency plan shall include—
6	"(A) the name of the individual or entity
7	submitting the proposal;
8	"(B) a copy of the coral reef emergency
9	plan;
10	"(C) a description of the qualifications of
11	the individuals and entities who will implement
12	the plan;
13	"(D) an estimate of the funds and time re-
14	quired to complete the implementation of the
15	plan; and
16	"(E) any other information the Secretary
17	considers to be necessary for evaluating the eli-
18	gibility of the proposal for a grant under this
19	subsection.
20	"(3) REVIEW.—Not later than 30 days after re-
21	ceiving a proposal for a grant under this subsection,
22	the Secretary shall review the proposal and deter-
23	mine if the proposal meets the criteria requirements
24	of paragraph (2).

1	"(4) Concurrent review.—An individual or
2	entity seek a grant under this subsection may sub-
3	mit a project proposal under paragraph (2) to the
4	Secretary at any time following the submission of a
5	petition for an emergency declaration under sub-
6	section (a)(2) that is applicable to coral reefs or eco-
7	logically significant units of coral reefs subject to the
8	coral reef stewardship activities of the individual or
9	entity.
10	"SEC. 220. VESSEL GROUNDING INVENTORY.
11	"The Administrator, in coordination with the heads
12	of other Federal agencies, may maintain an inventory of
13	all vessel grounding incidents involving United States
14	coral reefs, including a description of—
15	"(1) the impacts of each such incident;
16	"(2) vessel and ownership information relating
17	to each such incident, if available;
18	"(3) the estimated cost of removal, mitigation
19	or restoration relating to each such incident;
20	"(4) the response actions taken by the owner of
21	the vessel, the Administrator, the Commandant of
22	the Coast Guard, or other Federal or State agency
23	representatives;
24	"(5) the status of the response actions, includ-
25	ing the dates of—

1	"(A) vessel removal;
2	"(B) mitigation or restoration activities
3	including whether an applicable coral reef emer-
4	gency plan as certified under section 216 was
5	implemented; and
6	"(C) any actions taken to prevent future
7	grounding incidents; and
8	"(6) recommendations for additional naviga-
9	tional aids or other mechanisms for preventing fu-
10	ture grounding incidents.
11	"SEC. 221. CORAL REEF CONSERVATION PROGRAM.
12	"(a) Grants.—The Administrator shall provide
13	grants of financial assistance for projects for the conserva-
14	tion and restoration of coral reef ecosystems (in this sec-
15	tion referred to as 'coral reef projects') for proposals ap-
16	proved by the Administrator in accordance with this sec-
17	tion.
18	"(b) Eligibility.—
19	"(1) In general.—An entity described in
20	paragraph (2) may submit to the Administrator a
21	proposal for a coral reef project.
22	"(2) Entities described.—An entity de-
23	scribed in this paragraph is—

1	"(A) a natural resource management au-
2	thority of a State or local government or Tribal
3	organization—
4	"(i) with responsibility for coral reef
5	management; or
6	"(ii) the activities of which directly or
7	indirectly affect coral reefs or coral reef
8	ecosystems;
9	"(B) a coral reef stewardship partnership
10	certified under section 210(e) seeking to imple-
11	ment a coral reef stewardship plan certified
12	under section 212;
13	"(C) a coral reef research center des-
14	ignated under section 223(c)(2); or
15	"(D) another educational or nongovern-
16	mental research institution with demonstrated
17	expertise in the conservation or restoration of
18	coral reefs in practice or through significant
19	contributions to the body of existing scientific
20	research on coral reefs.
21	"(c) Project Proposals.—Each proposal for a
22	grant under this section for a coral reef project shall in-
23	clude the following:
24	"(1) The name of the individual or entity re-
25	sponsible for conducting the project.

1 "(2) A description of the qualifications of the 2 individual or entity. 3 "(3) A succinct statement of the purposes of 4 the project. "(4) An estimate of the funds and time re-5 6 quired to complete the project. 7 "(5) Evidence of support for the project by ap-8 propriate representatives of States or other govern-9 ment jurisdictions in which the project will be con-10 ducted. "(6) Information regarding the source and 11 12 amount of matching funding available to the appli-13 cant. "(7) A description of how the project meets one 14 15 or more of the criteria under subsection (e)(2). "(8) In the case of a proposal submitted by a 16 17 coral reef stewardship partnership certified under 18 section 210(e), a description of how the project 19 aligns with the coral reef stewardship plan in effect 20 as certified under section 212. "(9) Any other information the Administrator 21 22 considers to be necessary for evaluating the eligi-23 bility of the project for a grant under this sub-24 section.

"(d) Project Review and Approval.—

1	"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall re-
2	view each coral reef project proposal submitted
3	under this section to determine if the project meets
4	the criteria set forth in subsection (e).
5	"(2) Prioritization of restoration
6	PROJECTS.—The Administrator shall prioritize the
7	awarding of grants for applicable projects that meet
8	the criteria for approval under subparagraphs (F),
9	(G), (H), (I), (J), and (K) of subsection (e)(2) that
10	are proposed to be conducted within the administra-
11	tive boundaries of—
12	"(A) an individual management unit of a
13	Federal agency specified in section 205(c); or
14	"(B) a covered State that—
15	"(i) has experienced more than a 10
16	percent loss of living coral cover during the
17	10-year period preceding the date of the
18	plan as determined by the applicable Fed-
19	eral coral reef action plan in effect as de-
20	veloped under section 204; or
21	"(ii) retains less than 50 percent of
22	its historical living coral cover as of that
23	date, as determined by the State coral reef
24	action plan in effect as developed under
25	section 208.

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1	"(3) Review; approval or disapproval.—
2	Not later than 180 days after receiving a proposal
3	for a coral reef project under this section, the Ad-
4	ministrator shall—
5	"(A) request and consider written com-
6	ments on the proposal from each Federal agen-
7	cy, State government, Tribal organization, or
8	other government jurisdiction, including the rel-
9	evant regional fishery management councils es-
10	tablished under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery

Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.), or any National Marine Sanctuary, with jurisdiction or management authority over coral reef ecosystems in the area where the project is to be conducted, including the extent to which the project is consistent with locally established priorities, unless such entities were directly involved in the development of the

"(B) provide for the merit-based peer review of the proposal and require standardized documentation of that peer review;

project proposal;

"(C) after considering any written comments and recommendations based on the re-

1	views under subparagraphs (A) and (B), ap-
2	prove or disapprove the proposal; and
3	"(D) provide written notification of that
4	approval or disapproval, with summaries of all
5	written comments, recommendations, and peer-
6	reviews, to the entity that submitted the pro-
7	posal, and each of those States, Tribal organi-
8	zations, and other government jurisdictions that
9	provided comments under subparagraph (A).
10	"(e) Criteria for Approval.—The Administrator
11	may not approve a proposal for a coral reef project under
12	this section unless the project—
13	"(1) is consistent with—
14	"(A) the national coral reef resilience
15	strategy in effect as developed under section
16	203;
17	"(B) the State coral reef management and
18	restoration strategy in effect, if any, as devel-
19	oped under section 206 by the covered State in
20	which the project will be carried out;
21	"(C) the State coral reef action plan in ef-
22	fect, if any, as developed under section 207 by
23	such State;
24	"(D) Federal coral reef action plans in ef-
25	fect, if any, as developed under section 204 by

1	a Federal agency with management jurisdiction
2	of a coral reef ecosystem to be impacted by
3	such project, if applicable; and
4	"(E) coral reef stewardship plans in effect,
5	if any, as certified under section 212 governing
6	the stewardship activities at a coral reef or eco-
7	logically significant unit of a coral reef to be
8	impacted by such project, if applicable; and
9	"(2) will enhance the conservation and restora-
10	tion of coral reefs by—
11	"(A) addressing conflicts arising from the
12	use of environments near coral reefs or from
13	the use of corals, species associated with coral
14	reefs, and coral products, including supporting
15	consensus-driven, community-based planning
16	and management initiatives for the protection
17	of coral reef ecosystems;
18	"(B) improving compliance with laws that
19	prohibit or regulate the taking of coral products
20	or species associated with coral reefs or regulate
21	the use and management of coral reef eco-
22	systems;
23	"(C) designing and implementing networks
24	of real-time water quality monitoring along
25	coral reefs, including data collection related to

1	turbidity, nutrient availability, harmful algal
2	blooms, and plankton assemblages, with an em-
3	phasis on coral reefs impacted by agriculture
4	and urban development;
5	"(D) promoting ecologically sound naviga-
6	tion and anchorages, including mooring buoy
7	systems to promote enhanced recreational ac-
8	cess, near coral reefs;
9	"(E) furthering the goals and objectives of
10	coral reef stewardship plans certified under sec-
11	tion 212 and coral reef emergency plans cer-
12	tified under section 216;
13	"(F) mapping the location and distribution
14	of coral reefs and potential coral reef habitat;
15	"(G) implementing research to ensure the
16	population viability of listed coral species in
17	United States waters as detailed in the popu-
18	lation-based recovery criteria included in spe-
19	cies-specific recovery plans consistent with the
20	Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C.
21	1531 et seq.);
22	"(H) developing and implementing cost-ef-
23	fective methods to restore degraded coral reef
24	ecosystems or to create native coral reef eco-
25	systems in suitable waters, including by improv-

1	ing habitat or promoting success of keystone
2	species, with an emphasis on novel restoration
3	strategies and techniques to advance coral reef
4	recovery and growth near population centers
5	threatened by rising sea levels and storm surge;
6	"(I) translating and applying coral genet-
7	ics research to coral reef ecosystem restoration,
8	including research related to traits that pro-
9	mote resilience to increasing ocean tempera-
10	tures, ocean acidification, coral bleaching, coral
11	diseases, and invasive species;
12	"(J) developing and maintaining in situ
13	native coral propagation sites; or
14	"(K) developing and maintaining ex situ
15	coral propagation nurseries and land-based
16	coral gene banks to—
17	"(i) conserve or augment genetic di-
18	versity of native coral populations;
19	"(ii) support captive breeding of rare
20	coral species; or
21	"(iii) enhance resilience of native coral
22	populations to increasing ocean tempera-
23	tures, ocean acidification, coral bleaching,
24	and coral diseases through selective breed-
25	ing, conditioning, or other approaches that

1	target genes, gene expression, phenotypic
2	traits, or phenotypic plasticity.
3	"(f) Funding Requirements.—
4	"(1) Fifty percent match.—
5	"(A) In general.—Except as provided by
6	subparagraph (C), Federal funds for any coral
7	reef project under this section may not exceed
8	50 percent of the total cost of the project. For
9	purposes of this paragraph, the non-Federal
10	share of project costs may be provided by in-
11	kind contributions and other noncash support.
12	"(B) WAIVER.—The Administrator may
13	waive all or part of the matching requirement
14	under subparagraph (A) with respect to a coral
15	reef project if the Administrator determines
16	that—
17	"(i) no reasonable means are available
18	through which the entity that submitted
19	the proposal for the project can meet the
20	matching requirement; and
21	"(ii) the probable benefit of the
22	project outweighs the public interest in the
23	matching requirement.

1	"(C) Exclusion.—Funds provided under
2	section 209 may not be used to satisfy the
3	matching requirement under subparagraph (A).
4	"(2) Distribution of funds.—To the extent
5	practicable based upon proposals for coral reef
6	projects submitted to the Administrator, the Admin-
7	istrator shall ensure that funding for grants award-
8	ed under this section during a fiscal year is distrib-
9	uted as follows:
10	"(A) Not less than 40 percent of funds
11	available shall be awarded for projects in the
12	Pacific Ocean within the maritime areas and
13	zones subject to the jurisdiction or control of
14	the United States.
15	"(B) Not less than 40 percent of the funds
16	available shall be awarded for projects in the
17	Atlantic Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, or the Car-
18	ibbean Sea within the maritime areas and zones
19	subject to the jurisdiction or control of the
20	United States.
21	"(C) Not more than 67 percent of funds
22	distributed in each region in accordance with
23	subparagraphs (A) and (B) shall be made ex-
24	clusively available to projects that are—

1	"(i) submitted by a coral reef steward-
2	ship partnership certified under section
3	210(e); and
4	"(ii) consistent with the coral reef
5	stewardship plan developed by such part-
6	nership as certified under section 212.
7	"(D) Of the funds distributed to support
8	projects in accordance with subparagraph (C),
9	not less than 20 percent and not more than 33
10	percent shall be awarded for projects impacting
11	coral reef ecosystems within the administrative
12	boundaries of individual management units of
13	the Federal agencies specified in section 205(c).
14	"(g) Project Reporting.—Each entity receiving a
15	grant under this section shall submit to the Administrator
16	such reports at such times and containing such informa-
17	tion for evaluating project performance as the Adminis-
18	trator may require.
19	"(h) Task Force.—The Administrator may consult
20	with the Secretary of the Interior and the Task Force to
21	obtain guidance in establishing priorities for coral reef
22	projects under this section.
23	"SEC. 222. ANNUAL REPORTS ON ADMINISTRATION.
24	"(a) In General.—Not less frequently than annu-
25	ally, the Administrator shall submit to the committees

- 1 specified in subsection (b) a report on the administration
- 2 of this title, including—
- 3 "(1) a description of all activities undertaken in
- 4 the previous fiscal year to implement the most re-
- 5 cent national coral reef resilience strategy under sec-
- 6 tion 203(a);
- 7 "(2) a statement of all funds obligated under
- 8 the authorities of this title; and
- 9 "(3) a summary, disaggregated by State, of
- 10 Federal and non-Federal contributions toward the
- 11 costs of each project or activity funded under section
- 12 205, 209, 213, 218, 219, 221, or 223.
- 13 "(b) Committees Specified.—The committees
- 14 specified in this subsection are—
- 15 "(1) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
- 16 Transportation and the Committee on Appropria-
- tions of the Senate; and
- 18 "(2) the Committee on Natural Resources and
- the Committee on Appropriations of the House of
- Representatives.
- 21 "SEC. 223. AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS.
- 22 "(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may enter
- 23 into and perform such contracts, leases, grants, or cooper-
- 24 ative agreements as may be necessary to carry out the
- 25 purposes of this title.

I	"(b) FUNDING.—
2	"(1) In general.—Under an agreement en-
3	tered into under subsection (a), the Secretary may
4	reimburse or provide funds authorized to be appro-
5	priated by section 224 to, and may receive funds or
6	reimbursements from, individuals and entities de-
7	scribed in paragraph (2) to carry out activities au-
8	thorized by this title.
9	"(2) Individuals and entities de-
10	SCRIBED.—Individuals and entities described in this
11	paragraph are the following:
12	"(A) Federal agencies, instrumentalities
13	and laboratories.
14	"(B) State and local governments.
15	"(C) Indian Tribes and Tribal organiza-
16	tions.
17	"(D) International organizations.
18	"(E) Foreign governments not subject to
19	economic sanctions imposed by the United
20	States.
21	"(F) Institutions of higher education, re-
22	search centers, and other educational institu-
23	tions.
24	"(G) Nonprofit organizations.
25	"(H) Commercial organizations.

1	"(I) Other public or private individuals or
2	entities.
3	"(c) Cooperative Institutes.—
4	"(1) Establishment.—The Secretary shall es-
5	tablish 2 cooperative institutes for the purpose of
6	advancing and sustaining essential capabilities in
7	coral reef research, to be known as the 'Atlantic
8	Coral Reef Cooperative Institute' and the 'Pacific
9	Coral Reef Cooperative Institute'.
10	"(2) Membership.—The institutes established
11	under paragraph (1) shall each include at least one
12	coral reef research center designated by the Admin-
13	istrator that—
14	"(A) is operated by an institution of higher
15	education or nonprofit marine research organi-
16	zation;
17	"(B) has established management-driven
18	national or regional coral reef research or res-
19	toration programs;
20	"(C) is located in a covered State that con-
21	tains a coral reef ecosystem;
22	"(D) has demonstrated abilities to coordi-
23	nate closely with appropriate Federal and State
24	agencies, as well as other academic and non-
25	profit organizations; and

1	"(E) maintains significant local community
2	engagement and outreach programs related to
3	coral reef ecosystems.
4	"(3) Functions.—The institutes established
5	under paragraph (1) shall—
6	"(A) support ecological research and moni-
7	toring to study the effects of conservation and
8	restoration activities funded by this title on pro-
9	moting more effective coral reef management
10	and restoration; and
11	"(B) through agreements with centers re-
12	ferred to in paragraph (2)—
13	"(i) collaborate directly with govern-
14	mental resource management agencies,
15	coral reef stewardship partnerships cer-
16	tified under section 210(e), nonprofit orga-
17	nizations, institutions of higher education,
18	and other research organizations;
19	"(ii) assist in the development and im-
20	plementation of State coral reef manage-
21	ment and restoration strategies developed
22	under section 206, State coral reef action
23	plans developed under section 207, State
24	coral reef action plan assessments devel-
25	oped under section 208, coral reef steward-

1	ship plans developed under section 211 or
2	certified under section 212, and coral reef
3	emergency plans developed under section
4	215 or certified under section 216;
5	"(iii) build capacity within govern-
6	mental resource management agencies to
7	establish research priorities and translate
8	and apply research findings to manage-
9	ment and restoration practices; and
10	"(iv) conduct public education and
11	awareness programs for policymakers, re-
12	source managers, and the general public
13	on—
14	"(I) coral reefs and coral reef
15	ecosystems;
16	"(II) best practices for coral reef
17	ecosystem management and restora-
18	tion;
19	"(III) the value of coral reefs;
20	and
21	"(IV) the threats to the sustain-
22	ability of coral reef ecosystems.
23	"(d) Multiyear Cooperative Agreements.—The
24	Administrator may enter into multiyear cooperative agree-
25	ments with the heads of other Federal agencies, States,

- 1 Indian Tribes or Tribal organizations, local governments,
- 2 the coral reef cooperative institutes established under sub-
- 3 section (c), and other institutions of higher education,
- 4 nonprofit research organizations, and nongovernmental
- 5 organizations to carry out activities authorized under sec-
- 6 tions 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 213, 218, 219, 220,
- 7 and 221.
- 8 "(e) Use of Resources of Other Agencies.—
- 9 The Administrator may use, with consent and with or
- 10 without reimbursement, the land, services, equipment, per-
- 11 sonnel, and facilities of any agency or instrumentality of—
- "(1) the United States;
- "(2) any State or local government;
- 14 "(3) any Indian Tribe; or
- 15 "(4) any foreign government not subject to eco-
- nomic sanctions imposed by the United States.

17 "SEC. 224. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

- 18 "(a) In General.—There are authorized to be ap-
- 19 propriated to the Secretary to carry out this title the fol-
- 20 lowing amounts, which shall remain available until ex-
- 21 pended:
- 22 "(1) \$29,000,000 for fiscal year 2020.
- "(2) \$30,500,000 for fiscal year 2021.
- 24 "(3) \$32,000,000 for fiscal year 2022.
- 25 "(4) \$33,500,000 for fiscal year 2023.

I	"(5) \$35,000,000 for fiscal year 2024.
2	"(b) Administration.—Of the amounts appro-
3	priated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations
4	under subsection (a), not more than the lesser of
5	\$1,500,000 or 10 percent may be used for program ad-
6	ministration or for overhead costs incurred by the Na-
7	tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration or the De-
8	partment of Commerce and assessed as an administrative
9	charge.
10	"(c) Coral Reef Management and Restoration
11	ACTIVITIES.—From the amounts authorized to be appro-
12	priated under subsection (a), there shall be made available
13	to the Secretary not less than the following amounts for
14	authorized activities under sections 205 and 209:
15	"(1) $$21,000,000$ for fiscal year 2020, of which
16	not less than \$6,000,000 shall be made available to
17	the Secretary for the provision State block grants
18	under section 209.
19	"(2) $$22,500,000$ for fiscal year 2021, of which
20	not less than \$6,750,000 shall be made available to
21	the Secretary for the provision State block grants
22	under section 209.
23	"(3) \$24,000,000 for fiscal year 2022, of which
24	not less than \$7,500,000 shall be made available to

1 the Secretary for the provision State block grants 2 under section 209. 3 "(4) \$25,500,000 for fiscal year 2023, of which 4 not less than \$8,250,000 shall be made available to 5 the Secretary for the provision State block grants 6 under section 209. 7 "(5) \$27,000,000 for fiscal year 2024, of which 8 not less than \$9,000,000 shall be made available to 9 the Secretary for the provision State block grants 10 under section 209. 11 "(d) Federally Directed Research and Coral REEF CONSERVATION PROGRAM GRANTS.—From the 13 amounts authorized to be appropriated under subsection 14 (a), there shall be made available to the Secretary not less 15 than \$8,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024 to support purposes consistent with this title, of which— 17 18 "(1) not less than \$3,500,000 shall be made 19 available for each such fiscal year for authorized ac-20 tivities under section 221; and 21 "(2) not less than \$4,500,000 shall be made available for each such fiscal year through coopera-22 23 tive agreements with the cooperative institutes estab-

lished under section 223(c).

1 "SEC. 225. DEFINITIONS.

2	"In this title:
3	"(1) Administrator.—The term 'Adminis-
4	trator' means the Administrator of the National
5	Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
6	"(2) Appropriate congressional commit-
7	TEES.—The term 'appropriate congressional com-
8	mittees' means the Committee on Commerce,
9	Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the
10	Committee on Natural Resources of the House of
11	Representatives.
12	"(3) Conservation.—The term 'conservation'
13	means the use of methods and procedures necessary
14	to preserve or sustain native corals and associated
15	species as diverse, viable, and self-perpetuating coral
16	reef ecosystems with minimal impacts from invasive
17	species, including—
18	"(A) all activities associated with resource
19	management, such as monitoring, assessment,
20	protection, restoration, sustainable use, man-
21	agement of habitat, and maintenance or aug-
22	mentation of genetic diversity;
23	"(B) mapping;
24	"(C) scientific expertise and technical as-
25	sistance in the development and implementation
26	of management strategies for marine protected

1	areas and marine resources consistent with the
2	National Marine Sanctuaries Act (16 U.S.C.
3	1431 et seq.) and the Magnuson-Stevens Fish-
4	ery Conservation and Management Act (16
5	U.S.C. 1801 et seq.);
6	"(D) law enforcement;
7	"(E) conflict resolution initiatives;
8	"(F) community outreach and education;
9	and
10	"(G) promotion of safe and ecologically
11	sound navigation and anchoring.
12	"(4) CORAL.—The term 'coral' means species
13	of the phylum Cnidaria, including—
14	"(A) all species of the orders Antipatharia
15	(black corals), Scleractinia (stony corals),
16	Gorgonacea (horny corals), Stolonifera
17	(organpipe corals and others), Alcyanacea (soft
18	corals), and Coenothecalia (blue coral), of the
19	class Anthozoa; and
20	"(B) all species of the order
21	Hydrocorallina (fire corals and hydrocorals) of
22	the class Hydrozoa.
23	"(5) CORAL REEF.—The term 'coral reef'
24	means a limestone relief feature, in the form of a
25	reef or shoal, composed in whole or in part by living

1	coral, skeletal remains of coral, crustose coralline
2	algae, and other associated sessile marine plants and
3	animals.
4	"(6) Coral Reef Ecosystem.—The term
5	'coral reef ecosystem' means—
6	"(A) corals and the associated community
7	of other species of reef organisms (including
8	reef plants and animals) associated with coral
9	reef habitat; and
10	"(B) the biotic and abiotic factors and
11	processes that control coral growth, reproduc-
12	tion, and abundance and diversity in such habi-
13	tat.
14	"(7) CORAL PRODUCTS.—The term 'coral prod-
15	ucts' means any living or dead specimens, parts, or
16	derivatives, or any product containing specimens,
17	parts, or derivatives, of any species referred to in
18	paragraph (4).
19	"(8) COVERED STATE.—The term 'covered
20	State' means Florida, Hawaii, the Northern Mariana
21	Islands, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, or
22	the United States Virgin Islands.
23	"(9) Indian tribe; tribal organization.—
24	The terms 'Indian Tribe' and 'Tribal organization'
25	have the meanings given the terms 'Indian tribe' and

- 'tribal organization', respectively, in section 4 of the
 Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance
 Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).
- "(10) Institution of Higher Education.—
 The term 'institution of higher education' has the
 meaning given that term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).
 - "(11) Interested stakeholder groups' includes community members such as businesses, commercial and recreational fishermen, other recreationalists, Federal, State, Tribal, and local government units with related jurisdiction, institutions of higher education, and nongovernmental organizations.
 - "(12) Nonprofit organization.—The term 'nonprofit organization' means an organization that is described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such Code.
 - "(13) RESTORATION.—The term 'restoration' means the use of methods and procedures necessary to enhance, rehabilitate, recreate, or create a functioning coral reef or coral reef ecosystem, in whole or in part, within suitable waters of the historical geographic range of such ecosystems, to provide eco-

1	logical, economic, cultural, or coastal resiliency serv-
2	ices associated with healthy coral reefs and benefit
3	native populations of coral reef organisms.
4	"(14) Resilience.—The term 'resilience'
5	means the capacity for native corals, coral reefs, or
6	coral reef ecosystems to recover from natural and
7	human disturbance as determined by clearly identifi-
8	able, measurable, and science-based standards.
9	"(15) Secretary.—The term 'Secretary'
10	means the Secretary of Commerce.
11	"(16) State.—The term 'State' means—
12	"(A) any State of the United States that
13	contains a coral reef ecosystem within its sea-
14	ward boundaries;
15	"(B) American Samoa, Guam, the North-
16	ern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, or the Virgin
17	Islands; or
18	"(C) any other territory or possession of
19	the United States or separate sovereign in free
20	association with the United States that contains
21	a coral reef ecosystem within its seaward
22	boundaries.
23	"(17) Stewardship.—The term 'stewardship',
24	with respect to a coral reef, includes conservation
25	and restoration.

1	"(18) Task force.—The term 'Task Force'
2	means the United States Coral Reef Task Force es-
3	tablished under section 201 of the Restoring Resil-
4	ient Reefs Act of 2019.".
5	TITLE II—UNITED STATES
6	CORAL REEF TASK FORCE
7	SEC. 201. ESTABLISHMENT.
8	There is established a task force to lead, coordinate,
9	and strengthen Federal Government actions to better pre-
10	serve, conserve, and restore coral reef ecosystems, to be
11	known as the "United States Coral Reef Task Force" (in
12	this title referred to as the "Task Force").
13	SEC. 202. DUTIES.
14	The duties of the Task Force shall be—
15	(1) to coordinate, in cooperation with State,
16	Tribal, and local government partners, academic
17	partners, and nongovernmental partners if appro-
18	priate, activities regarding the mapping, monitoring,
19	research, conservation, mitigation, restoration of
20	coral reefs and coral reef ecosystems;
21	(2) to monitor and advise regarding implemen-
22	tation of the policy and Federal agency responsibil-
23	ities set forth in—
24	(A) Executive Order 13089 (63 Fed. Reg.
25	32701; relating to coral reef protection); and

1	(B) the national coral reef resilience strat-
2	egy developed under section 203(a) of the Coral
3	Reef Conservation Act of 2000, as amended by
4	section 101;
5	(3) to work with the Secretary of State and the
6	Administrator of the United States Agency for
7	International Development, and in coordination with
8	the other members of the Task Force—
9	(A) to assess the United States role in
10	international trade and protection of coral spe-
11	cies; and
12	(B) to encourage implementation of appro-
13	priate strategies and actions to promote con-
14	servation and sustainable use of coral reef re-
15	sources worldwide;
16	(4) to provide technical assistance for the devel-
17	opment and implementation, as appropriate, of—
18	(A) the national coral reef resilience strat-
19	egy under section 203 of the Coral Reef Con-
20	servation Act of 2000, as amended by section
21	101;
22	(B) State coral reef management and res-
23	toration strategies under section 206 of that
24	Act;

1	(C) State coral reef action plans under sec-			
2	tion 207 of that Act; and			
3	(D) State coral reef action plan assess-			
4	ments under section 208 of that Act; and			
5	(5) to produce a report each year, for submis-			
6	sion to the appropriate congressional committees			
7	and publication in the Federal Register, highlighting			
8	the status of one State member's coral reef equities			
9	on a rotating basis, including—			
10	(A) a summary of recent coral reef man-			
11	agement and restoration activities undertake			
12	in the State; and			
13	(B) updated estimates of the direct and in-			
14	direct economic activity supported by, and other			
15	benefits associated with, those coral reef equi-			
16	ties.			
17	SEC. 203. MEMBERSHIP.			
18	(a) Voting Membership.—The Task Force shall			
19	have the following voting members:			
20	(1) The Secretary of Commerce, acting through			
21	the Administrator of the National Oceanic and At-			
22	mospheric Administration, and the Secretary of the			
23	Interior, who shall be co-chairs of the Task Force.			
24	(2) The Administrator of the United States			
25	Agency for International Development.			

1	(3) The Secretary of Agriculture.
2	(4) The Secretary of Defense.
3	(5) The Secretary of the Army, acting through
4	the Chief of Engineers.
5	(6) The Secretary of Homeland Security, acting
6	through the Administrator of the Federal Emer-
7	gency Management Agency.
8	(7) The Commandant of the Coast Guard.
9	(8) The Attorney General.
10	(9) The Secretary of State.
11	(10) The Secretary of Transportation.
12	(11) The Administrator of the Environmental
13	Protection Agency.
14	(12) The Administrator of the National Aero-
15	nautics and Space Administration.
16	(13) The Director of the National Science
17	Foundation.
18	(14) The Governor, or a representative of the
19	Governor, of each covered State.
20	(b) Nonvoting Members.—The Task Force shall
21	have the following nonvoting members:
22	(1) The member of the South Atlantic Fishery
23	Management Council who is designated by the Gov-
24	ernor of Florida under section 302(b)(1) of the Mag-

1	nuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Manage-
2	ment Act (16 U.S.C. 1852(b)(1)).
3	(2) The member of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery
4	Management Council who is designated by the Gov-
5	ernor of Florida under such section.
6	(3) The members of the Western Pacific Fish-
7	ery Management Council who are designated by the
8	Governors of Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, and
9	the Northern Mariana Islands under such section.
10	(4) The members of the Caribbean Fishery
11	Management Council who are designated by the
12	Governors of Puerto Rico and the United States Vir-
13	gin Islands under such section.
14	(5) A member appointed by the President rep-
15	resenting each of the following:
16	(A) The Freely Associated States of the
17	Federated States of Micronesia.
18	(B) The Republic of the Marshall Islands.
19	(C) The Republic of Palau.
20	SEC. 204. RESPONSIBILITIES OF FEDERAL AGENCY MEM-
21	BERS.
22	(a) In General.—A member of the Task Force
23	specified in paragraphs (1) through (14) of section 203(a)
24	shall—

- 1 (1) identify the actions of the agency that mem-2 ber represents that may affect coral reef ecosystems;
- 3 (2) utilize the programs and authorities of that 4 agency to protect and enhance the conditions of such 5 ecosystems, including through the promotion of basic 6 and applied scientific research;
- 7 (3) collaborate with the Task Force to appro-8 priately reflect budgetary needs for coral reef con-9 servation and restoration activities in all agency 10 budget planning and justification documents and 11 processes; and
- (4) engage in any other coordinated efforts approved by the Task Force.
- 14 (b) Co-Chairs.—In addition to their responsibilities 15 under subsection (a), the co-chairs of the Task Force shall 16 administer performance of the functions of the Task Force 17 and facilitate the coordination of the members of the Task
- 18 Force specified in paragraphs (1) through (13) of section 19 203(a).
- 20 SEC. 205. WORKING GROUPS.
- 21 (a) In General.—The co-chairs of the Task Force
- 22 may establish working groups as necessary to meet the
- 23 goals and carry out the duties of the Task Force.

- 1 (b) Requests From Members.—The members of
- 2 the Task Force may request the co-chairs to establish a
- 3 working group under subsection (a).
- 4 (c) Participation by Nongovernmental Organi-
- 5 ZATIONS.—The co-chairs may allow nongovernmental or-
- 6 ganizations, including academic institutions, conservation
- 7 groups, and commercial and recreational fishing associa-
- 8 tions, to participate in a working group established under
- 9 subsection (a).
- 10 SEC. 206. DEFINITIONS.
- In this title:
- 12 (1) Appropriate congressional commit-
- 13 TEES.—The term "appropriate congressional com-
- mittees' means the Committee on Commerce,
- Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the
- 16 Committee on Natural Resources of the House of
- 17 Representatives.
- 18 (2) Conservation, coral, coral reef,
- 19 ETC.—The terms "conservation", "coral", "coral
- reef", "coral reef ecosystem", "covered State", "res-
- 21 toration", "resilience", and "State" have the mean-
- ing given those terms in section 225 of the Coral
- Reef Conservation Act of 2000, as amended by sec-
- 24 tion 101.

TITLE III—DEPARTMENT OF THE

2 INTERIOR CORAL REEF AU-

3	THO	RIT	IES
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4	SEC. 301.	CORAL	REEF	CONSERVATION	AND	RESTORATION
	DEC. UUI.	COLUM		COMBELLAMITOR	\mathbf{m}	IUDIOIGIIO

_	ACCIONANTON
7	ASSISTANCE

- 6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior may
- 7 provide scientific expertise and technical assistance and,
- 8 subject to the availability of appropriations, financial as-
- 9 sistance for the conservation and restoration of coral reefs
- 10 consistent with all applicable laws governing resource
- 11 management in Federal and State waters, including—
- 12 (1) the national coral reef resilience strategy in
- effect and developed under section 203 of the Coral
- Reef Conservation Act of 2000, as amended by sec-
- 15 tion 101; and
- 16 (2) Federal coral reef action plans in effect and
- developed under section 204 of that Act.
- 18 (b) Consultation With the Department of
- 19 Commerce.—The Secretary of the Interior may consult
- 20 with the Secretary of Commerce regarding the conduct of
- 21 any activities to conserve and restore coral reefs and coral
- 22 reef ecosystems in waters managed under the jurisdiction
- 23 of the Federal agencies specified in paragraphs (2), (3),
- 24 and (4) of section 205(c) of the Coral Reef Conservation
- 25 Act of 2000, as amended by section 101.

- 1 (c) Cooperative Agreements.—The Secretary of
- 2 the Interior may enter into cooperative agreements with
- 3 States to fund coral reef conservation and restoration ac-
- 4 tivities in waters managed under the jurisdiction of such
- 5 States that are consistent with the national coral reef re-
- 6 silience strategy in effect and developed under section 203
- 7 of the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, as amended
- 8 by section 101, and support and enhance the success of
- 9 Federal coral reef action plans in effect and developed
- 10 under section 204 of that Act.
- 11 (d) Definitions.—In this section, the terms "con-
- 12 servation", "coral reef", "restoration", and "State" have
- 13 the meaning given those terms in section 225 of the Coral
- 14 Reef Conservation Act of 2000, as amended by section
- 15 101.

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